

010921 1/2 58



Love - Letters
FROM
King *HENRY VIII.*
TO
Anne Boleyn, &c.



(Price One Shilling.)

Love Letters

1700

King H. VIII



Anna Bolcom, Esq.

(Price One Shilling)

LOVE-LETTERS
FROM
King *HENRY VIII.*
TO
ANNE BOLEYN:

Some in *French*, and Some in *English*.

To which are added,
TRANSLATIONS of Those
Written in *French*.

WITH AN
APPENDIX,
CONTAINING
TWO LETTERS from *Anne Boleyn*,
To Cardinal *Wolfey*;
With Her Last to *HENRY* the VIIIth.

Conjugium pactamque fidem non crimina posco. Ovid.

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. CHURCHILL, at the *Black-
Swan* in *Pater-Noster-Row*. MDCCXIV.

LOVE-LETTERS

FROM

KING HENRY VIII.

TO

MARY BOLTON.

Some in French, and some in English.

To which are added,

TRANSLATIONS of Those

Which are



A P P E N D I X

CONTAINING

Two Letters from Anne Bolton

To Cardinal Wolsey;

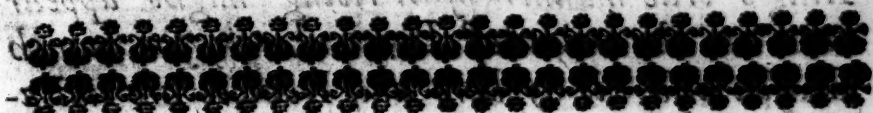
With Her Last to HENRY the VIII.

Containing passages which are curious and

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. GURCHILL, at the Black

Steeple in Peter-Norfolk Row. MDCCLXIV.



T H E

P R E F A C E.

T H E Original Letters from King Henry the VIIIth to Anne Boleyn are in the Vatican Library, where they are shewn to all Strangers. About Thirty Years ago, Dr. Fall late. Precentor of York, took a Copy of them, which he Collated very carefully with the Original, as he assured the Bishop of Salisbury, to whom he made a Present of it. The Bishop thought the Letters had some Expressions which made them unfit for a Place in his Collection, at the End of his Third Volume of the History of the Reformation, and therefore sent them to the Printer to be Published apart, in justification of the Observations he has made upon them in that Book.

They are Printed exactly from Dr. Fall's Copy, without correcting so much as the False Spelling

ii The PREFACE.

Spelling either in French or English, that the King's true manner of Writing might appear even in the minutest Particulars; for which Reason also his Cyphers and Devices are imitated. The French Letters are Translated to satisfy the Curiosity of the English Reader, with as little Variation from the Literal Meaning of the Words, as the different Phrase of the Languages would allow.

It was thought likewise that some Introduction would be necessary to make the Letters generally understood; and therefore since the Bishop would not give himself any further trouble about them, the Publisher was advised to employ some Friend to give a short View of the remarkable Transactions which preceded them, and gave occasion to them. This, with a few Reflections on the Letters themselves, may give an ordinary Reader some Notion of the Grounds of King Henry's Divorce, and may arm him against the Calumnies of the Papists on that Subject. This is only intended for the Use of those, who have not Leisure or Opportunities to see that Matter fully explained in the Bishop's History of the Reformation.

To follow then the Order of Time; It may first be observed, that in K. Henry the VIIth's time, his Eldest Son Prince Arthur, being past Fifteen Years of Age, was Married to the Princess Catharine of Spain, who

Hist. Refor.
Part I.

Nov. 14. 1501.



The P R E F A C E. iii

was Elder than himself; that they lived together as Man and Wife for several Months, and then Prince Arthur dying, it was resolved for Reasons of State that Prince Henry should Marry his Brother's Widow. This was opposed by Warham Archbishop of Canterbury as absolutely unlawful, but advised by Fox Bishop of Winchester, who thought all Difficulties would be removed by a Dispensation from Rome; accordingly a Bull was obtained to that Effect, and they were Married, the Prince being yet under Age. But Warham had so possess'd the King with Scruples against this Marriage, that the Day on which the Prince was of Age, he by his Father's Order protested against it as Null and Void; and Henry the VIIth, with his Dying Breath persisted in charging his Son to break it off entirely. However, when Henry the VIIIth came to the Crown, it was resolved in Council that he should renew his Marriage, which was done Publickly, and he had several Children by the Queen, who all dyed young, except the Lady Mary.

After this there appeared no farther Disquiet in the King's Mind, nor any Sign of an intended Divorce, till the Year 1524, when Cardinal Wolsey, by his Legantine Mandate, Published a Bull of the Pope's against those that contracted Marriage within the forbidden Degrees.

iv The P R E F A C E.

grees. This Mandate is yet extant in the Register of Fisher Bishop of Rochester. What followed, makes this justly suspected to have been done on the King's Account. To confirm which Suspicion, there is a concurring Circumstance in a Letter from Simon Grineus to Bucer, Dated Sept. 10. 1531, where

Hist. Reformation.
Part I.

he says, The King had declared to him that he had abstained from Queen Catherine for Seven Years, upon Scruples of Conscience.

However, tho' the King had Scruples at that time, yet he concealed them carefully from the World for some Years; and the immediate Occasion of their breaking out, seems to have been given by the French Ambassadors, who came to England to

March 2. 1527.

treat of several Matters, and particularly of a Marriage between the Princess Mary and the French King, or the Duke of Orleans his Second Son. This Alternative was

April 30. 1527.

at last agreed, tho' it remained some time in suspense, Because

Hall.

“ The President of the Parliament of Paris doubted, Whether the Marriage between the King and her Mother, being his Brother's Wife, were good or no.

The Bishop of Tarbè made the same Objection, and renewed it to the King's Ambassadors in France, as appears by King Henry's Speech to the Mayor and Citizens

Herbert.

Zens

The P R E F A C E. v

zens of London concerning his Scruples, where
 he says, " When our Ambassade was last in
 " France, and Motion was made, That the
 " Duke of Orleance should Marry our sayd
 " Daughter, one of the Chief Councaylores to
 " the French King sayd, It were well done
 " to know, whether she be the King of Eng-
 " land's lawfull Daughter, or not; for well
 " known it is, that he begat her on his Bro-
 " thers Wife, which is directly contrary to
 " God's Law, and his Precept". That this
 Councillor was the Bishop of Tarbè, is af-
 firm'd by the Bishop of Bayonne,
 in the Account he gives of this
 Speech to the Court of France, in
 a Letter dated the 27th of Nov. 1528; yet
 this very Bishop of Tarbè was afterwards ad-
 vanced to be a Cardinal, and was so far from
 retracting his Opinion, that when he was Car-
 dinal of Grandemont, in a Letter dated the
 27th of March, 1530, he writes to the
 French Court, " That he had served the
 " Lord Rockford, (Anne Boleyn's Father) all
 " he could, and that the Pope had three se-
 " veral times said to him in Secret, that he
 " wished the Marriage had been already made
 " in England, either by the Legate's Dispen-
 " sation, or otherwise; provided it was not done
 " by him, nor in Diminution of his Authority,
 " under Pretence of the Laws of God".
 This Conduct shews, That it was not Religion,
 b but

Hist. Ref.
 Part III.

vi The P R E F A C E.

but Political Views, that turn'd the Court of Rome against the King's Cause, which they at first plainly favoured.

And now after this short Account of the Circumstances that gave the Beginning to the King's Scruples, it will be proper to consider the Arguments by which he fortified himself

Hist. Ref.
Part. I.

in them. These, as he himself own'd, were, that he found by the Law of Moses, If a Man took his Brother's Wife, they should die Childless; this made him reflect on the Death of his Children, which he now looked on as a Curse from God, for that unlawful Marriage. He found Thomas Aquinas (whom he chiefly valued of all the Casuists,) of Opinion, That the Laws of Leviticus, about the forbidden Degrees of Marriage, were Moral and Eternal, such as obliged all Christians; and that the Pope could only dispense with the Laws of the Church, but not with the Laws of God; for this Reason, That no Laws can be dispenced with by any Authority, but that which is Equal to the Authority that Enacted it: It may be observed, That as these Arguments were of Force in themselves, so they were yet stronger to a True Roman-Catholick than to another Man; for when the Validity of the Marriage came afterwards to be thoroughly canvassed, it appeared that the whole Tradition of the Church, and the Opinions of its Doctors were against the Marriage, and

The P R E F A C E. vij

and the Arguments for its Validity were taken from private Explications of Scripture, and Reasonings from them.

In the Tear 1527, before Cardinal Wolsey's Journey to France, which he began on the 3d of July, The King's Scruples were become Publick, as Two Writers

Stow, Hall.

testify almost in the same Words : " This Season, says Hall, began a Fame in London, that the King's Confessor the Bishop of Lincoln, called Dr. Langland, and divers other great Clerks, had told the King, that the Marriage between him and the Lady Katherine, late Wife to his Brother Prince Arthur, was not Good, but Damnable ; and the King thereupon should Marry the Dutcheſs Alanſon at the Town of Calais this Summer ; and the Viſcount Rochfort had brought with him the Picture of the ſaid Lady, and that at his return out of France, the Cardinal ſhould paſs the Sea to go into France to fetch her.

This Suspicion of the Cardinal's going to promote a Second Match in France is confirm'd by a Letter of his, Dated Feversham, July the 5th, 1527, where he ſays, Archbiſhop Warham had warn'd him

Herbert.

him of the great Jealousies which Queen Catherine had of his Journey. And

Hist. Reform.
Part I.

by another Letter Dated August the 1st, 1527, where he labours to satisfy the King, That the Pope's Dispensation was in its self Null and Void. All these Particulars will be the stronger Proofs of the Cardinal's Intention, when it shall be proved that the Cardinal could then have no Thoughts of Anne Boleyn. What he did in this Negotiation was kept secret; but it seems it was very agreeable to the French, for they sent great Acknowledgments the next Year for the Honour of his Embassy, by Ambassadors of

Hall.

the First Rank, who came to see the King of England swear to the League with their Master; upon which Occasion Hall writes, "The common People said, What needs all this Swearing, The French King was once Sworn, and all his Nobility; yea, and all his good Towns; but yet they brake

Hall.

"with us, and so will they again when they see an Advantage. But to return from this Digression, to the History of Mistress Boleyn. It must be observed, that in the end of May 1527, the Lord Rochford her Father came over to England from France with the Dutchess of Alanson's Picture to shew it to King Henry, and it was then

Hist. Reform.
Part I.

then in all probability that Anne Boleyn came over with him, for tho she had been in England in 1522, yet she did not stay long, but returned into the Service of Claude Queen of France, where she continued till that Queen dyed, which was in 1524, and then went into the Dutchess of Alanson's Service, which she left probably at this time. Soon after her coming into England she was taken into Queen Catharine's Court, where the Lord Peirce courted her, and was upon the Point of Marrying her, had not Cardinal Wolsey, by the King's Order prevented it; and as the same Author assures us, it was not till after the Cardinal's return from France, which was on the last Day of September 1527, that the King opened his Affection for Anne Boleyn to him.

From this short View of the Transactions that preceded the King's Affection to Anne Boleyn, it appears how unjust a Calumny of the Papists it is to say, That the King would never have had Thoughts of a Divorce, or Scruples against his first Marriage, had not his unlawful Passion for Mistress Boleyn prompted him to them. So far is this from true, that it is plainly proved, that the King's Scruples were infused

x The P R E F A C E.

infused in him from his Infancy, on the justest
 Grounds; that they were revived in
 1524. him 3 years before they were Publick,
 and that they were commonly talk'd
 of, and a New Match contriv'd for him to
 the Dutcheſs of Alanson, before Anne Boleyn
 appear'd at Court. The Letters will ſet this
 Matter yet in a clearer Light.

But before I make any Remarks on theſe, I
 muſt firſt give a ſhort Account of the King's
 Negotiations at Rome, without which
 ſome of them cannot be underſtood.

Hift. Ref.
 Part I.

Hift. Ref.
 Part III.

Rymer.

Tom XIV.

In the End of 1527, The King ſolli-
 cited the Pope for a Commiſſion to
 judge the Validity of his Marriage
 with Queen Catherine, which after
 ſome time was obtained in a Bull,
 dated the 13th of April, 1528, em-
 powering Cardinal Wolſey, with the Archbi-
 ſhop, or any other Engliſh Biſhop, to judge the
 Marriage. But this was not made Uſe of;
 perhaps becauſe it was thought, that a
 Stranger ought to be employed, that the Pro-
 ceeding might be more impartial.

Herbert.

So a New Commiſſion was deſired,
 and obtained, bearing Date the 6th
 of June, in which the Cardinals Wolſey and
 Campegio (an Italian) were appointed joyn-
 t Legates to judge the Marriage. And to make
 this

The PREFACE.

x

this the surer, there was a Pollicitation (or Promise) procured on the 23d of July, 1528, That the Pope would never inhibit or revoke this Commission to judge the Marriage; and a Decretal Bull, which contain'd an Absolute Decision of the Cause, which was only shewn to the King, and Cardinal Wolsey, by Campegio; but all these Precautions which were admitted of, when the Pope was in a distress'd Condition, did not restrain his Holiness from sending one Campana before the End of the Year, to see the Decretal Bull secretly Burnt; and from recalling the Legate's Commission, and avocating the Cause to Rome the next Year, when his Affairs were more flourishing, and the Emperor (who was Queen Catherine's Nephew) had granted all his Demands. I am shorter in this Relation of the Pope's Proceedings, than the Consequence it had may seem to have required: But it is not my Design in this Preface to give a Compleat History of the Divorce, but only to mention such Things as will sway with the English Reader in the King's Justification; and I hope to such a one, the Good or Bad Success of the Cause at the Court of Rome, will not signify much to prove its Justice or Injustice.

And

And now to make some Observations on the Letters themselves. It may be presumed reasonably, that if there had been any Thing in them that had reflected on the King's Honour, or on Anne Boleyn's, they would certainly have been Publish'd by the Papists at that very Time; for they were in their Hands soon after they were Written, as appears from this Passage in Lord Herbert's History.

“ When Cardinal Campegio came to take
 “ Ship, the Searchers, upon Pretence he
 “ carried either Money or Letters from Eng-
 “ land to Rome, ransack'd all his Coffers,
 “ Bags, and Papers, not without Hope, cer-
 “ tainly, to recover that Decretal Bull our
 “ King so much long'd for. I find also (by
 “ some Relation) that divers Love-Letters
 “ betwixt our King and Mistress Boleyn,
 “ being convey'd out of the King's Cabinet,
 “ were sought for, though in vain; they ha-
 “ ving been formerly sent to Rome”. To
 explain this Account, it must be supposed,
 that upon Anne Boleyn's return to Court,
 the King perswaded her, to let him lay up
 these Letters in his Cabinet, as the surest
 Place to keep them from being stole; since it
 would have done them both great Prejudice, if
 they had come Abroad at the time of the Tryal.
 But

But this Supposition does not seem so natural as another, which is, that they were taken, not out of the King's, but out of Anne Boleyn's Cabinet: This is the more probable, because in Fact they are all Letters from the King to her; whereas, if his Cabinet had been rifled, her Answers to him would have been more likely to be found there: It were to be wished, that these Answers could be discovered; for there is just reason to expect in them, accomplish'd Pieces both for Thought and Expression. To which the Reader will easily agree, when he looks into the few that are Extant of her Writing, which are subjoin'd in an APPENDIX; the last of them, indeed, is by far the most to be admired; for as the Occasion of it required the utmost Effort of her Mind, so nothing could be Penned in a more exalted Strain.

The King's Letters to Anne Boleyn were written, in all probability, immediately after her Dismissal from the Court, which was done to silence Herbert, and the Clamours of the People on her Account; but she was sent away in so abrupt a manner, that she determin'd to absent her self altogether, which made the King soon Repent of his Severity, and

c

press

xiv The PREFACE.

press her to come back; but this was not obtained for a long time, nor without great Difficulty; as appears by some of the following Letters. The Time of her Dismission was not till May, 1528, for Bib. Harl. there is a Letter extant from 39. B. 4. Fox to Gardiner at Rome, dated London, May the 4th, 1528, where he writes, Of his landing at Sandwich, May the 2d, — His coming that Night to Greenwich, where the King lay, — His being commanded to go to Mistress Anne's Chamber in the Tilt Yard — And declaring to her their Expedition in the King's Cause, and their hastening the coming of the Legate. — To her great Rejoycing and Comfort. — Then came the King, to whom he delivered his Letters, — And opened his Negotiations. — Then he went to the Cardinal, &c.

Soon after the Date of this Letter she was dismiss'd; for in the First of the Letters that follow, the King makes Excuses for the Necessity of their being asunder; and in the Second complains of her Unwillingness to return to Court. In neither of these is there a Word of the Sore throat Sicknes, which raged violently in June; and of which he speaks in his Third Letter,

The P R E F A C E. xv

ter as of a Thing that had lasted some Time, and of which he had form'd many Observations from Experience. Between this Letter, which seems to have been writ in July, and the Sixth, which mentioning the Legates arrival at Paris, must have been written in the End of September, there are Two Letters, which by the Earnestness of the Business were plainly written within a few Days of one another. Probably soon after the latter of these was sent by the King, where he expressed how much he was pleased with her Answer to his earnest Desire in the former, in the Heat of his Gratitude, he paid a Visit to his Mistress, in which Time they wrote a joynt Letter to Cardinal Wolsey, which is added in the APPENDIX, where the King expresses his Wonder, that he has not yet heard of the Legate Campegio's Arrival at Paris; which makes it probable this happened in September. The King stay'd not long with her after this; for when she had received the Cardinal's Answer, she writes a second Letter, without mentioning the King's being there; and again shews Impatience to hear of the Legate's coming, of which the King gave her the first News soon after.

Letter the Vth.

Letter the IVth.

xvj The P R E F A C E.

But to return to the Fourth Letter, which from all these Particulars may be supposed to have been written in August; it is the most Important in all the Collection, for it fixes the Time when his Affection to Anne Boleyn began. He complains in it, That he had been above a whole Year struck with the Dart of Love, and not yet sure whether he shall fail, or find a Place in her Heart and Affection.

Now by the Nature of his Complaint, it is visible, that he pleads all the Merit that a long Attendance could give him; and therefore if instead of a Year, he could have called it a Year and a Half, or Two Years, he would certainly have done it, to make his Argument the stronger. It may likewise be probably concluded from the same Words, that he had not then known her much above Half a Year; for it would have been an ill Compliment, in him to let her understand that he had seen her some time, before he was at all in Love with her.

These Remarks confirm the Account already given, of her coming from France with her Father, and by that means serve
to

The P R E F A C E. xvij

to Establish the King's Vindication from the Scandal thrown on him by the Papists, that he had no Scruples about his Marriage till he saw

Sanders de
Schism. Ang.

Anne Boleyn. The manner of the whole seems to have been this; the French Ambassadors objected to the King's Marriage in March 1527. This gave him Thoughts of a Divorce; upon which the Lord Rochford going to France in the beginning of May, was employed to get the Dutchesse of Alanson's Picture, which he brought over accordingly in the End of that

Hall.

Month. The Cardinal who was sent to France in the beginning of July, was instructed to promote this Match; for which end he writes from France to the King, to confirm him in his Scruples. But while the Cardinal was thus employed, Mistress Boleyn who had come over with her Father my Lord Rochford, had shewn her self at Court, and made such Impressions on the King's Thoughts, that the Match in France was order'd to be dropp'd; and the Cardinal when he came

Cavendish.

over in the End of September, knew the Reason of it from the King's own Mouth, probably before Mrs. Boleyn her self knew of the King's Affection; for it was after this that her Correspondence with the Lord Piercy, was broke by the Cardinal at the King's Order. But now that the King thought it would

xviij The PREFACE

would be a means to perswade her to love him the better, he in this Letter tells her, that long before she suspected it, from his first seeing her he felt a Passion for her. In this Representation I have repeated many Things said before in the Series of Matters as they happened, but I thought it best to lay them thus together once more in one View.

It may be here questioned, how the time of any particular Letter can be known, since they have no Date, and therefore may have been put out of their Order. But those that will read them with any Attention, will find a Chain of Circumstances referred to, that plainly shew they were laid together by one that knew the Order in which they were Written, very likely by Anne Boleyn her self; and whoever stole them, as he took them all together, so would be careful no doubt to keep them in the Order he found them in, that the Discoveries to be made from them might be the more compleat.

It will not be doubted by any that read these Letters, that the King's Affection to Anne Boleyn was altogether upon honourable Terms. There appears no Pretension to any Favours, but when the Legates shall have paved the Way, There is so frequent mention of this, that Instances of it would swell a Preface too much. There is
but

that one Offence that can be taken at these Letters, which is, that there are indecent Expressions in them. But this is to be imputed to the Simplicity and Unpoliteness of that Age, which allowed too great Liberties of that Sort; and it must be own'd by his Enemies, that there are but Three or Four of these Sallies in all the Collection, and that there are Letters which make much more for the King's Piety and Virtue, than those Irregularities can sully his Character.

In the Fifth Letter he tells her, God can do it if he pleases; to whom I pray once a Day for that end, and hope that at length my Prayers will be heard.

In the Sixth, I trust shortly to enjoy, what I have so long longed for, to God's Pleasure, and our both Comforts.

In the Ninth, Praying God, that (and it be his Pleasure) to send us shortly together. Surely these Religious Expressions would have been very improper, to make an uncharitable Passion succeed.

In the Thirteenth, Speaking of the ill Character of one that was proposed to be made Abbess of Wilton, he writes, I would not for all the Gold

xx The PREFACE.

Gold in the World, clog your Conscience nor mine, to make her Ruler of a House, which is of so ungodly Demeanour; nor I trust you would not, that neither for Brother nor Sister I should so destain mine Honour or Conscience. The whole Letter is of an excellent Strain, and would have been a very improper Exhortation to one against whose Vertue he had a Design.

The Last of the Letters mentions the Legate's Illness, as a Reason why he had not yet enter'd upon his Office; which shewes, that the Correspondence ended at least in May 1529, when the Process began.

There is but one Thing after the Letters, that it seems very material to add here in the King's Defence, and that is the Approbation of his Cause by the Learned Men of Europe.

During the Tryal, Warham and Fisher, who were Advocates for the Queen, declared,

That they having been lately consulted by the King, &c. had answered, that the King's Conscience was disturbed and shaken, not without the weightiest and strongest Reasons.

After

The P R E F A C E. xxj

- After the Legatès had trifled some Months, and at last, Campegio, under a Pretence of the Rules of the Court of Rome, had adjourned the Court for Three Months; during which time he obtained an Avocation from the Pope; the King was advised by Crammer, not to depend longer on the Decisions of the See of Rome, but to consult the several Universities of Europe, as well as his own, about the Validity of his Marriage.

One Crook was employed in this Negotiation, and he obtained the Opinion of almost all the Universities whither he went, for the Nullity of the Marriage;

Hist. Refor.
Part I

Hist. Refor.
Part I.

Yet he complains in his Letters that he was in great Straits from the small Allowance he had. And in an Original Bill of his Accounts it appears, that he never gave above a few Crowns to any that writ on the King's Side; whereas, the Emperor gave a Benefice of 500 Ducats to one, and of 600 Crowns to another, that writ for the Queen. Yet, though on the one Side Men were poorly paid for their Trouble, and on the other richly rewarded, yet the most eminent Men were universally for the King. It may here be added, that Erasmus, whose Name was in the greatest Esteem at that time, though he could not be prevailed

prevailed with to write for the King, for fear of the Pope, and the Emperor, in whose Dominions he lived; yet he went so far as to give great Encomiums of the Worth and Vertues of Sir Thomas Boleyn, then Earl of Wiltshire, in his Book *De preparatione ad Mortem*, which he dedicates to him; and this was all the Approbation that his Circumstances made it convenient for him to shew of the King's Cause.

On this general Consent of the Learned in his Favour, the King was told he might proceed to a Second Marriage, the First being of it self Null and Void; and accordingly he Married Anne Boleyn on the 25th of January, 1533.

Hist. Reform.
Part III.

This short Representation of the Transactions relating to the King's Cause, with the Letters themselves that follow, may serve to convince the Reader, with how little reason the Papists insult us upon that Subject. The Writer of this Preface has been a Witness of one Instance of this Raillery, which is, their shewing these Letters at Rome to the English, as the shameful Beginning of our Reformation. But there is a fresher one, where their Malice and Impudence appears to the Height, which they intended probably to carry on some Schemes that

The P R E F A C E. xxliij

that have lately proved Abortive, and that is a large Poem in Quarto, by Thomas Ward, Printed at Hamborough, 1710, where the History of England, from the Beginning of Henry the VIIIth, to Oates's Plot is given, and the whole Progress of the Reformation, scurrilously ridiculed in Burlesque Verse. But all these Impotent Attacks need no other Answer, than a just Account of the Facts themselves.



L E T.

some have lately proved otherwise, and that is
 a large room in Oxford by Thomas Ward
 Printed at Hambro 1710, where the
 History of England from the Beginning of
 Henry the VIII. to the present time is given
 and the whole Progress of the Reformation
 fearlessly exhibited in English Verse. But
 all these important works need no other An-
 nouncement than a just Account of the Publishers
 below.





LETTERS

Written by

K. HENRY the VIIIth

TO

Anne Boleyn.

LETTRE I.

 A Maitresse et Amie, moy & mon
 M coeur s'en remettent en vos mains
 vous suppliant les avoir pour recom-
 mander a votre bonne grace, &
 que par absence votre affection ne leur soit di-
 minuë. Car pur augmenter leur peine ce seroit
 grande pitié, car l'absence leur fait assez, et
 plus que jamais je n'eusse pensé, en nous fai-
 sant rementevoir un point d'Astronomie qui est
 B tel.

tel. Tant plus loing que les Mores sont, tant plus eloigné est le soleil, et non obstant plus fervent, aussi fait il de notre amour, par absence nous sommes éloignez, & néanmoins il garde sa ferveur au moins de notre coste. Ayant en espoir la pareille du votre, vous assurant que de ma part l'ennuye de l'absence déjà m'est trop grande. Et quand je pense a l'augmentation diceluy que par force faut que je souffre, il m'est presque intollerable, sil n'estoit la ferme Espoir que j'aye de votre indissoluble affection vers moy ; et pur le vous rementevoir aucune fois cela, et voyant que personnellement je ne puis estre en votre presence, chose la plus approchante a cela qui m'est possible au present je vous envoie, cest a dire ma picture, mise en brasselettes a toute la devise que déjà scavez, me souhaitant en leur place quant il vous plairoit, c'est de la main de

Votre serviteur et amy

LS HS

Translation of LETTER I.

MY Mistress and Friend, I and my Heart put our selves in your Hands, begging you to recommend us to your Favour, and not



not to let Absence lessen your Affection to us
 For it were great pity to increase our Pain,
 which Absence alone does sufficiently, and more
 than I could ever have thought; bringing to
 my Mind a Point of Astronomy, which is,
 * That the farther the *Mores* are from us, the
 farther too is the Sun, and yet his Heat is
 the more scorching; so it is with our Love,
 we are at a distance from one another, and yet
 it keeps its Fervency, at least on my Side. I
 hope the like on your Part, assuring you that
 the uneasiness of Absence is already too severe
 for me, and when I think of the continuance
 of that which I must of necessity suffer, it
 would seem intolerable to me, were it not for
 the firm hope I have of your unchangeable Affec-
 tion for me; and now to put you sometimes in
 mind of it, and seeing I cannot be present in
 Person with you, I send you the nearest thing
 to that possible, that is, my Picture set in
 Bracelets, with the whole Device, which you
 know already, wishing my self in their Place,
 when it shall please you. This from the
 Hand of

Your Servant and Friend,

H. Rex.

* This is a literal Translation of this Sentence, but the mean-
 ing does not appear.

L E T T R E II.

A ma Maitresse,

POUR ce qui me semble le temps estre bien long depuis avoir ouy de votre bonne sante, & de vous. La grande affection que j'ay vers vous, m'a persuade de vous envoyer ce porteur pour estre mieux assestene de votre sante & volante, & pour ce que depuis mon partement de avec vous, on m'a averty que l'opinion en quoy je vous laissoye est de tout asteure change, & que vous vouliez venir en cour m'avec Madame votre mere ny autrement aussi. Lequel rapport estant vray, je ne sauroy assez emerveillier veux que depuis je m'assure de vous n'avoir jamais faite faute, & il me semble bien petite retribution pour le grand Amour que je vous porte de me eloigner & la personne & le personnage de la femme du monde que plus j'estime, & si, vous m'aymez de si bonne affection comme j'espere, Je suis sure que la eloignement de notre deux Personnes vous seroit un peu ennuyeuse, toute fois qu'il n'appartient pas tant a la Maitresse comme au serviteur. pensez bien ma Mestresse que l'absence de vous fort me grief, esperant qu'il n'est pas votre volonte, que ainsi ce soit, mais si je entendoys par verite que volonterement vous la desiriez, je
non

non puis mais faire si non plaindre ma mau-
 vaïse fortune en rebattant peu à peu ma grande
 folie, & ainsi faulte de temps fáy fin de ma
 rude Lettre, suppliant de donner foy a ce por-
 teur a ce qu'il vous dira de ma part. Estrie
 de la main, de tout votre serviteur.

Translation of **LETTER II.**

To my Mistress,

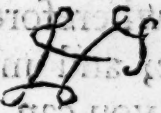
BECAUSE the Time seems to me very
 long, since I have heard from you, or
 concerning your Health; the great Affection
 I have for you has obliged me to send this
 Bearer to be better informed both of your
 Health and Pleasure, particularly because since
 my last parting with you, I have been told,
 that you have entirely changed the Opinion
 in which I left you, and that you would nei-
 ther come to Court with your Mother, nor
 any other way; which report if true, I can-
 not enough wonder at, being perswaded in my
 own Mind that I have never committed any
 Offence against you; and it seems a very small
 return for the great love I bear to you, to be
 kept at a distance from the Person and Pre-
 sence of the Woman in the World that I va-
 lue the most; and if you love me with as
 much Affection as I hope you do, I am sure
 the distance of our Two Persons would be a
 little

little uneasy to you. Tho' this does not belong so much to the Mistress as the Servant. Consider well, my Mistress, how greatly your Absence grieves me; I hope it is not your Will that it should be so; but if I heard for certain, that you your self desired it, I could do no other than complain of my ill Fortune, and by Degrees abate my great Folly. and so for want of time I make an end of my rude Letter, desiring you to give credit to this Bearer in all he will tell you from me. Written by the Hand of your entire Servant.

LETTRE III.

L'ennuye que j'avois du doute de votre santé me troubla. & egarra beaucoup, et n'eusse esté gère quiete sans avoir sue la certainté, mais puisque n'ancars n'avez rien sentu, j'espere qu'il est comme de nous. Car nous estant a Walton, deux vusbyres, deux verles de chambre, votre frere mester Tresorere ont tombé malades, & sont d'asture de tout sains, & depuis nous nous sommes reboutes en votre maison de Hondson, la ou nous nous sommes bien trouves, sans aucun malade pour steure, dieu soit loué, et je pense que si vous vous voulez retirer du lieu du Surrye, comme nous fimes, vous le passerez sans danger, & aussi une autre chose

chose vous peut conforter, car a la verité com-
me il vifit, peu ou nulle fame ont esté malade.
et que encore plus est nul de nostre Cort & peu
ailleurs en meurt, par quoy je vous supplie ma
entiere aymée de non avoir point de peure, ni
de nostre absence vous trop ennuyere. Car ou
que je soye, vous suis, & non obstant il faut
aucune fois a telles fortunes obeyer. Car qui
contre fortune veut luter en tel endroit est bien
souvent tant plus éloigné, par quoy recomfortes
vous et soyez hardy, et vuidez le mal tant que
vous pourrez. Et j'espere bientot de vous faire
chanter le renvoye non plus pour asteure de fau-
te du temps, si non que je vous souhaitte entre
mes bras, pour vous oster ung peu de vos dere-
sonable pensees. Escrite de la main de iceluy,
qui est et toujours sera votre

ma  aimable.

Translation of LETTER III.

THE uneasiness my Doubts about your
Health gave me disturb'd and frightned
me extreamly, and I should not have had any
quiet without hearing a certain Account. But
now since you have yet felt nothing, I hope
it is with you as with us, for when we were
at *Waltan*, two *Ushers*, two *valets de Chambre*,
and

and your Brother Master Treasurer fell ill, and are now quite well; and since we are returned to your House at *Handson*, we have been perfectly well, God be praised, and have not at present one sick Person in the Family; and I think if you would retire from the *Surry* side, as we did, you would escape all Danger. There is another thing that may comfort you, which is, that in truth in this Distemper few or no Women have been taken ill, and besides, no Person of our Court, and few elsewhere have dyed of it. For which Reasons I beg you, my entirely beloved, not to frighten your self, nor to be too uneasy at our Absence. For where-ever I am, I am yours, and yet we must sometimes submit to our Misfortunes, for whoever will struggle against Fate, is generally but so much the farther from gaining his end; wherefore comfort your self, and take Courage, and make this Misfortune as easy to you as you can, and I hope shortly to make you sing for joy of your recall. No more at present for lack of time, but that I wish you in my Arms, that I might a little dispell your unreasonable Thoughts. Written by the Hand of him who is, and always will be yours

my H. Rex, *Lovely.*

LET-

L E T T R E IV.

EN debatant de par moy le contenu de vos Lettres, me suis mis en grande agonie non sçachant comment les entendre ou a mon desavantage comme en des aucunes autres je les entendre, vous suppliant de bien bon cœur me vouloir certifiere appresent votre intention entiere touchant l' amour entre nous deux. Car necessité me contraint de pourchasser cette reponce, ayant esté plus qu'ung année atteinte du dard d'amour, non estant assuré de falieré ou trouver place en votre coeur & affection. Certain le quel dernier point m'en a gardé depuis peu temps en ça de vous point nommer ma Maistresse avec ce que si vous ne m' aymes d' autre sort, que d' amour commune; mais si'l vous plait de fair l' office d' une vraye loyalle Mestres & Amye, & de vous donner Corps & Coeur a moy qui veus estre & a este votre tres-loyal serviteur (si par riguer ne me défendes) je vous promes que non seulement le nom vous sera deu, mais aussi vous prendray pour ma Mestresse en rebuttant tres tantes autres aupres de vous hors de pensè & d' affection, & de vous seulement servir; Vous suppliant me faire entiere responce a cette ma rude lettre, a quoy & en quoy me puis fier, & si'l ne vous plait de me

G

faire

faire responce par escrite' assure moi quelque lieu la ou je la pourroy avoir de bouche, & je m'y trouveray de bien bon coeur. Non plus de peur de vous enuyer. Escrite de la main de celuy, qui volontiers de meureroit votre



Translation of LETTER IV.

BY turning over in my Thoughts the Contents of your last Letters, I have put my self into a great Agony, not knowing how to understand them, whether to my Disadvantage, as I understood some others, or not ; I beseech you now, with the greatest earnestness, to let me know your whole Intention as to the Love between us two. For I must of necessity obtain this Answer of You, having been above a whole Year struck with the Dart of Love, and not yet sure whether I shall fail, or find a Place in your Heart and Affection. This Uncertainty has hindered me of late from naming you my Mistress, since you only love me with an ordinary Affection ; but if you please to do the Duty of a True and Loyal Mistress, and to give up your self, Body and Heart to me, who will be, as I have been your most Loyal Servant, (if
your

your Rigour does not forbid me) I promise you that not only the Name shall be given you, but also that I will take you for my Mistress, casting off all others that are in competition with you, out of my Thoughts and Affection, and serving you only. I beg you to give an entire Answer to this my rude Letter, that I may know on what and how far I may depend. But if it does not please you to answer in Writing, let me know some Place, where I may have it by Word of Mouth, and I will go thither with all my Heart. No more for fear of tiring you. Written by the Hand of him who would willingly remain Yours,

H. Rex.



LETTRE V.

DE l'eternelle si belle que rien plus (notant le tout) je vous remercy tres cordialement, non seulement pour le beau Diamande & navire en quoy la seulette Damoiselle est tourmenté, mais principalement pour la belle interpretation, & trop humble submission, par votre benignité en cette casse use, bien pensant, que meriter cela per occasion me seroit fort difficile, si me n'estoit en ayde votre grande humanité & faveur pour laquelle j'ay cherché, cherche, & cherché-

J'ay par toutes bontes à moy possibles d'y demeu-
 rer en quelle mon espoir a mis son immuable in-
 tention qui dit, aut illic aut nullibi. Les demon-
 strances de votre affection sont telles, les belles
 mots de lettre si cordialement couchés qui m'
 obligent à tout jamais vraiment de vous ho-
 norer, aimer & servir, vous suppliant le vou-
 loir continuer en ce mesme ferme & constant
 propos, vous assurant que de ma part je l'aug-
 menteray plustot que la faire reciproque, si loy-
 autè du cœur le peut avancer. Vous priant aussi
 que si aucunement je vous ay per cy devant
 offencè que vous me donnez la mesme absoluti-
 on que vous demandez, vous assurant que d'
 oranavant à vous seule mon cœur sera dediè,
 desirant fort que le corps aynsi pouvoit, dieu le
 peut faire si luy plait, à qui je supplie une fois
 le jour pour ce faire. Esperant que à la long ma
 priere sera ouye, desyrant le temps bref, pensant
 le long jusques au reveüe d'entre nous deux.
 Escrite de la main du Secretere, qui en Cœur,
 Corps & Volonte est

Votre loyal & plus
 assuré serviteur,

autre



ne cherche

Translation

Translation of LETTER V.

FOR a Present so valuable that nothing could be more (considering the Whole of it) I return you my most hearty Thanks, not only on account of the costly Diamond, and the Ship in which the solitary Damsel is tossed about ; but chiefly for the fine Interpretation, and too humble Submission which your Goodness hath made to me. For I think it would be very difficult for me to find an Occasion to deserve it, if I was not assisted by your great Humanity and Favour, which I have sought, do seek, and will always seek to preserve by all the Services in my Power ; and this is my firm Intention and Hope, according to the Motto, *Aut illic aut nullibi*, (either here or no where). The Demonstrations of your Affection are such, the fine Thoughts of your Letter so cordially expressed, that they Oblige me for ever to Honour, Love, and Serve you sincerely, beseeching you to continue in the same firm and constant Purpose ; and assuring you, that on my Part, I will not only make you a suitable Return, but out-do you in Loyalty of Heart, if it be possible. I desire you also, that if at any time before this I have in any sort Offended you, you would give me the same Absolution which

which you ask, assuring you, That hereafter my Heart shall be Dedicated to you alone, I wish my Body were so too, God can do it if he pleases ; to whom I pray once a Day for that end ; hoping that at length my Prayers will be heard. I wish the Time may be short, but I shall think it long, till we shall see one another. Written by the Hand of the Secretary, who in Heart, Body and Will, is,

Your Loyal, and most
Assured Servant,

H. no other  seeks Rex,



LETTER VI. *Original*

THE Reasonable Request of your last Letter, with the Pleasure I also take to know them, causes me to send you now this Newes. The Legat, which we most desire, arrived at Paris on Sunday or Monday last past ; so that I trust, by the next Monday, to hear of his Arrival at Calais : And then I trust, within a while after, to enjoy that which I have so long longed for, to God's Pleasure, and our both Comforts. No more to you at this present, mine awne Darling, for
lake

lake of Time ; but that I would you were in
myne Arms, or I in yours ; for I think it long
since I kyft you. Writne after the Killing of
an Hart, at xi of the Clock : Minding with
God's Grace to-morrow, mightily tymely to
kill another, by the Hand of him, which I
trust shortly shall be yours,

Henry Hs



L E T T E R VII. *Original.*

DArling, tho' I have skant Leasure, yet re-
membring my Promise, I thought it con-
venient to certifie you breevly, in what Case
our Affaires stand. As touching a Lodging
for you, we have gotten wone by my Lord
Cardinal's Means, the like whereof could not
have been fond hereabouts for all Causes, as
this Bearer shall more shew yow. As touch-
ing our other Affairs, I ensure you there can
be no more done, nor more Diligence used,
nor all manner of Dangers better both fore-
seen and provided for, so that I trust it shall
be hereafter to both our Comforts, the Speci-
allities whereof were both too long to be
Writne, and hardly by Messenger to be de-
clared

clared. Wherefor till you repaire hydder, I keep something in Store, trusting it shall not be long to. For I have caused my Lord your Father to make his Provisions with speed. And thus for lake of Tyme, Darling, I make an end of my Letter, writeing with the Hand of him which I would were yours

• *Ln Hs*



LET T R E VIII.

*N*Eanmoins qu'l n'apartiene pas a ung Gentilhomme pour prendre sa Dame au lieu de Servante toute fois en suivant vos desirs volontiers le vous outroyeray si per cela vous pusses trouver moins ingrate en la place per vous choysie, qui avez este en la place par moy donne en vous merçant trescordialement si vous plete encore avoir quelque souvenance de moy,
6. N. R. 1. De. R. O. M. V. C. Z.

LBeney Hs

Tran-

Translation of LETTER. VIII.

THOU it does not belong to a Gentleman to take his Lady in the Place of a Servant, however in following your Desires I willingly grant it, that so you may be more agreeably in the Place that you your self have chosen, than you have been in that which I gave you. I shall be heartily obliged to you, if you please to have some remembrance of me. 6. N. R. I. de. R. O. M. V. E. Z.

Henry. Rex.

 L E T T E R IX. *Original.*

THE Cause of my Writeing at this time (good Sweatheart) is wonly to understand off your good Health and Prosperity, whereof to know I would be as glad as in manner myne awne, praying God (that and it be his Pleasure) to send us shortly togyder, for I promise you I long for it, howbeit, trust it shall not be long to, and seeing my Darling is absent, I can no less do, than to send her some Fleshe representing my Name,
 D which

which is Harts Fleshe for *Henry*, prognostica-
 ting, that hereafter God willing you must en-
 joy some of mine, which if he pleased I wolde
 were now. As touching your Sisters Matter
 I have caused *Water Welche* to write to my
 Lord mine Minde therein, whereby I trust
 that *Eve* shall not have Power to deceave
Adam. For surely whatsoever is said it cannot
 so stand with his Honour, but that he must
 needs take her his natural Daughter now in
 her extreame Necessity. No more to you at
 this tyme mine awne Darling, but that with
 a Wishe I wolde we were togyder one Even-
 ing with the Hand of your

LS HS



LETTRE X.

Toute fois ma Mestres qu'il ne vous pleu de
 I souvenir de la Promesse que vous me fites
 quant je estoy dernièrement vers vous, c'est à dire
 de scavoire de vos bonnes nouvelles & de
 scavoire responce de ma dernière Lettre, ne-
 anamoins il me semble quil app'artienne au vray
 serviteur (voyant que autrement il ne peut rien
 Scavoire) d'envoyer scavoire la salute de se
 Mestres & pur me acquitter de l'office du vray
 Serviteur,

Serviteur, je vous envoie cette Lettre, vous Suppliant de me avertir de votre Prosperité, la quelle je prie a Dieu qu'il soit aussi long comme je voudroy la mienne; & pur vous faire en Corps plus souvent souvenir de moy, je vous envoie par ce porture ung boucke tuë hier soir bien tarde de ma main: Esperant que quand vous en mangerez il vous souviendra du chasseur & ainsi a faute d'espace je feray fin a ma Lettre. Escrite de la main de votre serviteur qui bien souvent vous souhaite au lieu de votre frere.

EL HS

Translation of LETTER X.

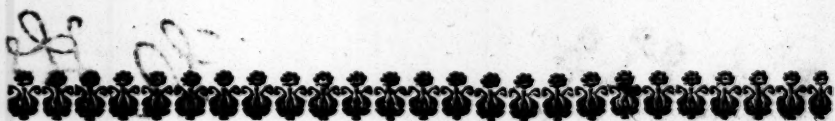
ALthough, My Mistress, you have not been pleased to remember the Promise which you made me when I was last with you, which was, That I should hear News of you, and have an Answer to my last Letter; yet I think it belongs to a true Servant (since otherwise he can know nothing) to send to enquire of his Mistresses Health; and for to acquit my self of the Office of a True Servant, I send you this Letter, begging you

D 2

to

to give me an account of the State you are in, which I pray God may continue as long in Prosperity, as I wish my own; and that you may the oftner Remember me, I send you, by this Bearer, a Buck killed late last Night by my Hand, hoping when you eat of it, you will think on the Hunter; and thus for want of more Room I will make an end of my Letter. Written by the Hand of your Servant, who often wishes you in your Brother's Room.

H. Rex.



LETTRE XI.

*A*pprochant du temps qui m'a si longement duré me rejôye tant qu'il me semble presque déjà venu. Néanmoins l'entier accomplissement ne se perfera tant que les deux personnes se assembleront, laquelle Assemblée est plus désiré en mon endroit que nulle chose mondaine, car que rejoyement peut estre si grand en ce monde comme d'avoir la compagnie de celle qui est la plus chere amye, sachant aussi qu'elle fait la pareille de son côté, la pensée duquel me fait grand plaisir : jugez adonque, que
fera

fera le personnage l'absence du quel m'a fait plus grand mal au cœur que ni langue ni écriture peuvent exprimer, & que jamais autre chose excepté cela peut remedier, vous suppliant ma Mestresse de dire a Monsieur votre pere de ma part que je luy prie d'avancer de deux jours le temps assigné, qu'il peut estre en Court devant le vieille terme, ou au moins sur le jour presfisché, car autrement, je penseray qu'il ne feroyt point le tour des amoureux qu'il disoit, ni accordant a mon expectation. Non plus d'asteure de faulte de temps. Esperant bien-tote que de bouche vous diray le reste des peines par moy en votre absence soustenües. Escrite de la main du secretere qui se soubaita d'asteure privement apres de vous, & qui est & qui a jamais sera

Votre Loyal & plus
assuré Serviteur



autre



ne cherche



Translation of LETTER XI.

THE Approach of the Time which I have so long expected, rejoyces me so much, that it seems almost already come. However,
the

the entire Accomplishment cannot be till the two Persons meet, which Meeting is more desired by me than any Thing in this World; for what Joy can be greater upon Earth, than to have the Company of her who is my dearest Friend? knowing likewise that she does the same on her Part, the thinking on which gives great Pleasure. You may judge what an Effect the Presence of that Person must have on me, whose Absence has made a greater Wound in my Heart than either Words or Writing can express, and which nothing can Cure but her Return: I beg you, dear Mistress, to tell your Father from me, That I desire him to hasten the Appointment by two Days, that he may be in Court before the Old Term, or at farthest on the Day prefixt; for otherwise I shall think, he will not do the Lover's Turn, as he said he would, nor Answer my Expectation. No more at present for want of Time; hoping shortly that by Word of Mouth I shall tell you the rest of my Sufferings from your Absence. Written by the Hand of the Secretary, who wishes himself at present Privately with you, and who is, and always will be,

Your Loyal, and most

Assured Servant

H. na other  *seeks Rex.*
 L E T.

L E T T R E XII.

Nouvelles me sont en nuit soudonement ve-
 nues les plus deplaisantes qui me pour-
 roient auenir. Car pour trois Causes touchant
 icelle faut il que je lamente : la premiere pour
 entendre la Maladie de ma Mestresse, laquelle
 je estime plus que tout le monde, la santé de
 quelle je desire autant comme la mienne, &
 vouloys volontiers porter la moitié du votre pour
 vous auoir guery. La seconde pour la crainte
 que j'ay d'estre encore plus longuement pressé
 de mon ennuyeux absens qui jusques icy m'a
 fait toute l'ennuye a lui possible, & quand en-
 core puis juger & deliberer de pys faire, pri-
 ant dieu qu'il m'en defasse de si importune re-
 belle. La troisieme pour ce que le medecin en qui
 plus me fie est absens assure quant il me pour-
 rait plus grand plaisir. Car j'espereroy par luy
 & ses moyens de obtenir une de mes principales
 joyes en ce monde ; cest a dire, ma Mestresse
 guerie. Neanmoins en faute de luy je vous en-
 voye le seconde & le tout, priant dieu que bi-
 entot il vous peut rendre saine, et adunques
 je l'aymeray plus que jamais, vous priant estre
 gouverné par ses avis touchant votre Maladie,
 en quoy faisant j'espere bientot vous reuoir
 qui me sera plus grand Cordiale que toutes les
 pieres

*pierres pretieuses du monde. Escrite du secre-
tere qui est, & a j'amaïs sera*

Votre loyal & plus
assuré Serviteur,

LS AB LS

Translation of LETTER XII.

THERE came to me in the Night the most afflicting News possible. For I have reason to grieve upon three Accounts. 1st, Because I heard of the Sicknes of my Mistress, whom I esteem more than all the World, whose Health I desire as much as my own, and the half of whose Sicknes I would willingly bear to have her cured. 2^{dly}, Because I fear I shall suffer yet longer that tedious Absence which has hitherto given me all possible uneasiness, and as far as I can judge, is like to give me more. I pray God he would deliver me from so troublesome a Tormentor. The third Reason is, because the Physician, in whom I trust most, is absent at present, when he could do me the greatest pleasure. For I should hope by him, and his Means, to obtain one of my principal Joys in this World, that
is

is Amy Mistress cured; however, in Default
of him, I send you the second, and the only
one left, praying God that he may soon make
you well, and then I shall Love him more
than ever. I beseech you to be governed by
his Advisers with relation to your Illness;
by your doing which I hope shortly to
see you again, which will be to me a greater
Gordial than all the precious Stones in the
World. Written by the Secretary who is,
and always will be, your most Obedient
and Affectionate Son, Wm. Lloyd.

After I should to detain mine Honour or Con-
 would not, that neither for Brother nor Si-
 is of to anybody's Dishonour; nor I trust you
 mine to *that* *your* *honour*, *and* *my* *affairs*
 Gold in the World do your Conscience nor

Assured Servant

that the Provost is to Obd. that of many
any evident Case proved against them, and
And as touching the Provost, or
AB

LETTER XIII. Original.

SINCE your last Letter, myne own Darling, *Water Welshe*, Master *Brown*, *John Cate*, *Prion* of *Breardon*, *John Cooke* the Apothecary, be fallen of the Sweett in this House, and thankyd be God all well recovered, so that as yet the Pleague is not fully ceased here; but I trust shortly it shall by the Mercy of God; the rest of us yet be well, and I trust shall passe it, either not to have it, or

at the least as easily as the rest have don. As
touching the Matter of *Wylton*, My Lord
Cardinal hath had the Nunys before him,
and examined them, Master *Bell* being pre-
sent, which hath certified me, that for a
Truth, that she hath confessed her self (which
we would have had Abbess) to have had
Two Children by Two sundry Priests; and
further, since hath been kept by a Servant
of the Lord *Broke*, that was, and that not
long ago. Wherefor I would not for all the
Gold in the World clog your Conscience nor
mine to make her Ruler of a House which
is of so ungodly Demeanour; nor I trust you
would not, that neither for Brother nor Si-
ster I should so deftain mine Honour or Con-
science: And as touching the Pryoresse, or
Dame *Ellenors* Eldest Sister, tho' there is not
any evident Case proved against them, and
that the Pryoresse is so Old, that of many
Years she could not be as she was named; yet
notwithstanding to do you Pleasure, I have
don that neither of them shall have it, but
that some other good and well disposed Wo-
man shall have it: Whereby the House shall
be the better reformed (whereof I ensure you
it had much need) and God much the
better served: As touching abode at *Heven-
blo* therein as best shall like you, for you
know best what Aire doth best with you;
but I wold it were come thereto (if it plea-
sed God) that neither of us need care for
that

that, for I ensure you I think it long. *Suche*
 is fallen sick of the Swett, and therefor I
 send you this Bearer, because I think you
 long to hear Tydings from us, as we do in
 likewise from you. Writeing with the Hand,

De votre seul
 (of Yours only)

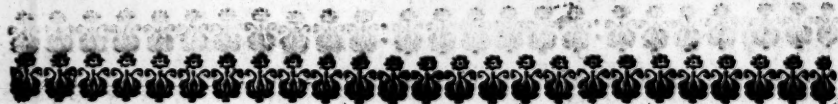
HS HS



LETTER XIV. *Original.*

DARLING, these shall be only to Ad-
 vertise you, that this Bearer, and his
 Fellow, be dispatched with as many Things
 to compasse our Matter, and to bring it to
 passe as our Wits could imagine or devise,
 which brought to passe, as I trust by their
 Diligence it shall be, shortly you and I shall
 have our desired End, which should be more
 to my Hearts Ease, and more Quietnesse to
 my Minde, than any other Thing in this
 World, as with Gods Grace shortly I trust
 shall be proved, but not so soon as I would it
 were, yet I will ensure you there shall be no
 Tyme lost, that may be wone, and further
 cannot be done, for *ultra posse non est esse* :
 Keep him not too long with you, but desire

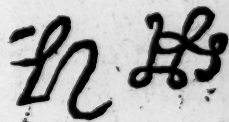
him for your sake to make the more speed, for the sooner we shall have Word from him the sooner shall our Matter come to passe; and thus upon trust of your short repair to London, I make an end of my Letter Mine awne Sweet-heart. Writne with the Hand of him which desyreth as much to be yours as you do to have him.



LETTER XV. *Original.*

DARLING, I heartily recommend me to you, ascertaining you, that I am not a little perplexed with such Things as your Brother shall on my part declare unto you, to whom I pray you give full Credence, for it were too long to write. In my last Letters I writ to you that I trusted shortly to see you, which is better known at London than with any that is about me, whereof I not a little mervelle, but lake of descreet handling must needs be the Cause thereof. No more to you at this tyme, but that I trust shortly, our Meeting shall not depend upon other Mens light Handlings but upon

upon your awne. Writne with the Hand of
his that longeth to be Yours,


LETTER XVI. *Original.*

MYNE awne Sweetheart, this shall be to
advertise you of the great ellingness that
I find here since your departing, for I ensure
you, me thinketh the Tyme longer since your
departing now last then I was wont to do a
whole Fortnight ; I think your Kindness and
my Fervence of Love causeth it, for other-
wise I wolde not thought it possible, that for
so little a while it should have grived me, but
now that I am comeing toward you, me think-
eth my Pains been half released, and also I
am right well comforted, insomuch that my
Book maketh substantially for my Matter, in
writing whereof I have spent above IIII
Hours this Day, which caused me now write
the shorter Letter to you at this tyme, because
of some Payne in my Head, wishing my self
(specially an Evening) in my Sweet-hearts
Armes whose pritty Duckes I trust shortly to

W. H.



kyffe. Writne with the Hand of him that
was, is, and shall be yours by his will, do and

Handwritten initials

Handwritten initials



LETTER XVII. *Original.*

TO informe you what Joye it is to me to understand of your Conformableness with Reason, and of the suppressing of your inutile and vain Thoughts and Fantasies with the Bridle of Reason, I ensure you all the good of this World could not counterpoise for my satisfaction, the Knowledge and Certainty thereof; wherefore good Sweetheart, continue the same not only in this, but in all your Doings hereafter, for thereby shall come both to you and me the greatest Quietnesse that may be in this World. The Cause why this Bearer stayeth so long, is the Business that I have had to dresse up Geer for you, which I trust ere long to see you occupye, and then I trust to occupy yours which shall be recompence enough to me for all my Pains and Labours. The unfayned Sicknesse of this well-willing Legate doth somewhat retard his Accessse to your Person, but I trust verily, when God shall send him Health, he will with Diligence recompence

compence his Demurre, for I know well where
he hath said (lamenting the Saying, and brute
(Nexse) that he shall be thought Imperial)
that it shall be well known in this Matter,
that he is not Imperial. And this for lake of
tyme farewell. Writne with the Hand which
faine would be yours, and so is the Heart.

TWO LETTERS
FROM

Anne Boleyn

TO
Cardinal Wolsey

APPENDIX
LETTER I

MY Lord, in my most humble
blest will that my Heart can
think I desire you to Pardon me
that I am so bold to Trouble you
with my simple and rude Writing, esteeming
it to proceed from her, that is much more
to know that your Grace does well, as I per-
ceive by this Bearer that you do. The which
I pray

APPENDIX.

TWO LETTERS



FROM

Anne Boleyn,

TO

Cardinal WOLSEY.

LETTER I.

MY Lord, in my most humblest wife that my Heart can think, I desire you to Pardon me that I am so bold to Trouble you with my simple and rude Writing, esteeming it to proceed from her, that is much desirous to know that your Grace does well, as I perceive by this Bearer that you do. The which I pray

Hist. Ref.
Part I. p. 55.

I pray God long to continue, as I am most bound to pray ; for I do know the great Pains and Troubles that you have taken for me both Day and Night, is never like to be recompenced on my Part, but alonely in loving you next unto the King's Grace, above all Creatures living. And I do not doubt but the daily Proofs of my Deeds, shall manifestly declare and affirm my Writing to be true, and I do trust you do think the same. My Lord, I do assure you I do long to hear from you News of the Legate ; for I do hope and they come from you they shall be very good, and I am sure you desire it as much as I, and more, and it were possible, as I know it is not : And thus remaining in a stedfast hope, I make an end of my Letter written with the Hand of her that is most bound to be,

Postscript by K. HENRY.

THE Writer of this Letter would not cease till she had caused me likewise to set to my Hand ; desiring you, though it be short to take it in good part. I ensure you there is neither of us, but that greatly desireth to see you, and much more joyous to hear that you have scaped this Plague so well, trusting the Fury thereof to be passed, specially with them that keepeth good Diet as I trust you do. The

F not

not hearing of the Legate's Arrival in *France*, causeth us somewhat to muse ; notwithstanding we trust by your Diligence and Vigilancy (with the Assistance of Almighty God) shortly to be eased out of that Trouble. No more to you at this time ; but that I pray God send you as good Health and Prosperity as the Writer would.

By Your

Loving Sovereign and Friend

Henry K.

Your Humble Servant

Anne Boleyn.



L E T T E R II.

MY Lord, In my most humble wise that my poor Heart can think, I do thank your Grace for your kind Letter, and for your rich and goodly Present, the which I shall never be able to deserve without your Help, of the which I have hitherto had so great Plenty, that all the Days of my Life I am most bound of all Creatures, next the King's Grace, to
love

love and serve your Grace ; of the which I beseech you never to doubt, that ever I shall vary from this Thought as long as any Breath is in my Body. And as touching your Grace's trouble with the Sweat, I thank our Lord, that them that I desired and prayed for are scaped, and that is the King and You ; not doubting but that God has preserved you both for great Causes known alonely of his high Wisdom. And as for the coming of the Legate I desire that much ; and if it be God's Pleasure, I pray him to send this Matter shortly to a good End, and then I trust my Lord, to recompence part of your great pains. In the which I must require you in the mean time to accept my Good-Will in the stead of the Power, the which must proceed partly from you, as our Lord knoweth ; to whom I beseech to send you long Life, with continuance in Honour. Written with the Hand of her that is most bound to be,

Your Humble and

Obedient Servant,

Anne Boleyn.

F 2

Queen

Queen Anne Boleyn's Last Letter to
King Henry.

S I R,

Records of
Hist. Ref. Part
I. Page 154.

YOUR Grace's Displeasure, and my Imprisonment, are Things so strange unto me, as what to Write, or what to Excuse, I am altogether ignorant. Whereas you send unto me (willing me to confess a Truth, and so obtain your Favour) by such an one whom you know to be mine antient professed Enemy; I no sooner received this Message by him, than I rightly conceived your Meaning; and if, as you say, confessing a Truth indeed may procure my safety, I shall with all Willingness and Duty perform your Command.

But let not your Grace ever imagine that your poor Wife will ever be brought to acknowledge a Fault, where not so much as a Thought thereof preceded. And to speak a Truth, never Prince had Wife more Loyal in all Duty, and in all true Affection, than you have ever found in *Anne Boleyn*, with which Name and Place I could willingly have contented my self, if God, and your Grace's Pleasure had been so pleased. Neither did I at any time so far forget my self in my Exaltation,

on, or received Queenship, but that I always looked for such an Alteration as now I find; for the ground of my Preferment being on no surer Foundation than your Grace's Fancy, the least Alteration, I knew, was fit and sufficient to draw that Fancy to some other Subject. You have chosen me, from a low Estate, to be your Queen and Companion, far beyond my Desert or Desire. If then you found me worthy of such Honour, Good your Grace let not any light Fancy, or bad Council of mine Enemies, withdraw your Princely Favour from me; neither let that Stain, that unworthy Stain of a Disloyal Heart towards your good Grace, ever cast so foul a Blot on your most Dutiful Wife, and the Infant Princess your Daughter: Try me good King, but let me have a Lawful Trial, and let not my sworn Enemies sit as my Accusers and Judges; yea, let me receive an open Trial, for my Truth shall fear no open shame; then shall you see, either mine Innocency cleared, your Suspicion and Conscience satisfied, the Ignominy and Slander of the World stopped, or my Guilt openly declared. So that whatsoever God or you may determine of me, your Grace may be freed from an open Censure; and mine Offence being so lawfully proved, your Grace is at liberty, both before God and Man, not only to execute worthy Punishment on me as an unlawful Wife, but to follow your Affection already

already settled on that Party, for whose sake I am now as I am, whose Name I could some good-while since have pointed unto: Your Grace being not ignorant of my Suspicion therein.

But if you have already determined of me, and that not only my Death, but an Infamous Slander must bring you the enjoying of your desired Happiness; then I desire of God, that he will pardon your great Sin therein, and likewise mine Enemies, the Instruments thereof; and that he will not call you to a strict Account for your unprincipely and cruel usage of me, at his General Judgment-Seat, where both you, and my self must shortly appear, and in whose Judgment, I doubt not, (whatsoever the World may think of me) mine Innocence shall be openly known, and sufficiently cleared.

My last and only Request shall be, That my self may only bear the Burthen of your Grace's Displeasure, and that it may not touch the Innocent Souls of those poor Gentlemen, who (as I understand) are likewise in strait Imprisonment for my sake. If ever I have found favour in your Sight; if ever the Name of *Anne Bolayn* hath been pleasing in your Ears, then let me obtain this Request, and I will so leave to trouble your Grace any further, with mine earnest Prayers to the Tri-
nity

nity to have your Grace in his good keeping,
and to direct you in all your Actions. From
my doleful Prison in the *Tower* this 6th of
May.

*Your most Loyal and ever
Faithful Wife,*

Ann Boleyn.

F I N I S.

my to have you in his good keeping
and to direct you to the Admiralty
my dearest friend
Wm.



Your most loyal and obedient
servant
John W. M.

Ann Boleyn

FINIS